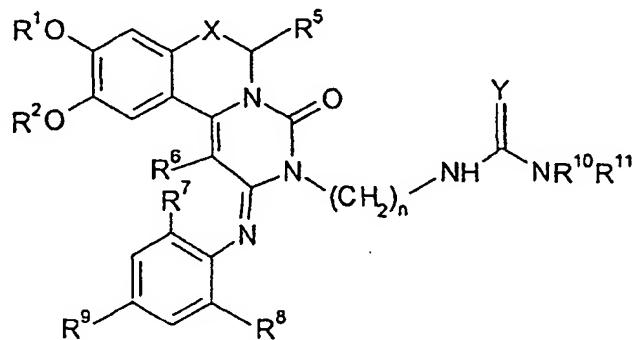


AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claims 1-15 (cancelled).

Claim 16 (currently amended): A process for preparing a compound of general formula I:



I

wherein

each of R¹ and R² independently represents a C₁₋₆ alkyl or C₂₋₇ acyl group;

R⁵ represents a hydrogen atom or a C₁₋₃ alkyl, C₂₋₃ alkenyl or C₂₋₃ alkynyl group;

R⁶ represents a hydrogen atom or a C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₂₋₆ alkenyl, C₂₋₆ alkynyl, amino, C₁₋₆ alkylamino, di(C₁₋₆) alkylamino or C₂₋₇ acylamino group;

each of R⁷ and R⁸ independently represents a hydrogen or halogen atom or a hydroxy, trifluoromethyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₂₋₆ alkenyl, C₂₋₆ alkynyl, C₂₋₇ acyl, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, C₁₋₆ alkoxy,

C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl; and

R⁹ represents a hydrogen or halogen atom or a hydroxy, trifluoromethyl, C₁₋₆ alkyl, C₂₋₆ alkenyl, C₂₋₆ alkynyl, C₂₋₇ acyl, C₁₋₆ alkylthio, C₁₋₆ alkoxy or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl group;

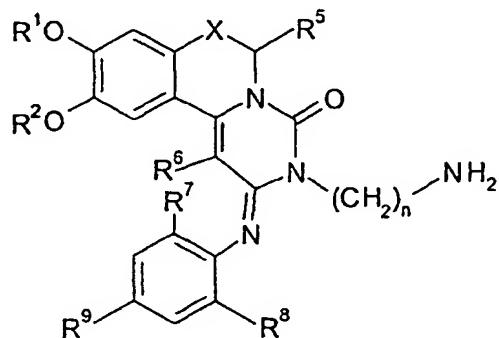
X represents a group CR³R⁴, wherein each of R³ and R⁴ independently represents a hydrogen atom or a C₁₋₃ alkyl group;

each of R¹⁰ and R¹¹ independently represents a hydrogen atom, a C₁₋₃ alkyl, C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl or phenyl group;

Y represents an oxygen atom or a group CHNO₂, NCN, NH or NNO₂;
n is an integer from 2 to 4;
or a salt thereof,

the process comprising:

(a) reacting a compound of general formula II:



II

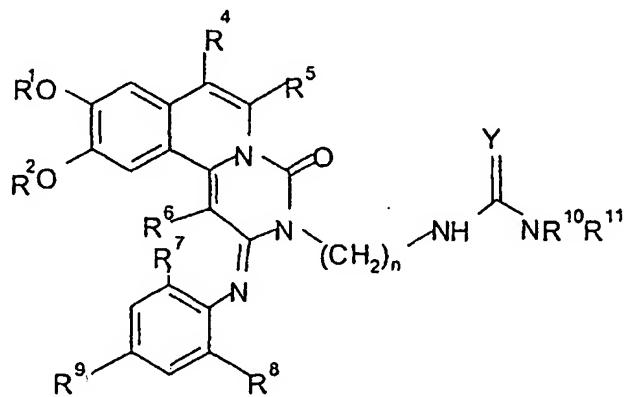
wherein R^1 , R^2 , R^5 , R^6 , R^7 , R^8 , R^9 , X and n are as defined for general formula I, with an amine-reactive compound selected from the group consisting of compound capable of reacting at the primary amine group of the aminoalkyl moiety $-(CH_2)_n-NH_2$; (i) a cyanate salt, (ii) an isocyanate of the formula $R^{11}-NCO$ wherein R^{11} is as defined for formula I, (iii) an N-C₁₋₃ alkyl- or N-C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl-1-methylthio)-2-nitroethenamine of the formula $CH_3SC(=CHNO_2)NR^{10}R^{11}$ wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined for formula I, (iv) a compound of the formula $CH_3SC(=NH)NR^{10}R^{11}$ or a salt thereof wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined for formula I, (v) a compound of the formula $CH_3SC(=NCN)NR^{10}R^{11}$ or a salt thereof wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined for formula I, and (vi) 2-methyl-1-nitro-2-isothiourea, to form a compound of general formula I; or

(b) reacting a compound of formula II as defined in (a) with 1,1-bis(methylthio)-2-nitroethylene and reacting the resulting compound with an amine of the formula R¹⁰R¹¹NH wherein R¹⁰ and R¹¹ are as defined for formula I, to form a compound of formula I; or

(c) reacting a compound of formula II as defined in (a) with N,N'-1,3-di-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)thiourea and treating the resulting compound with trifluoroacetic acid, to form a compound of formula I; or

(d) reacting a compound of formula II as defined in (a) with dimethyl-N-cyanodithioiminocarbonate and reacting the resulting compound with an amine of the formula R¹⁰R¹¹NH wherein R¹⁰ and R¹¹ are as defined for formula I, to form a compound of formula I; or

(e) when X in general formula I represents a group CR³R⁴, wherein R³ represents a hydrogen atom, R⁴ represents a hydrogen atom or a C₁₋₃ alkyl group, and R⁵ represents a hydrogen atom or a C₁₋₃ alkyl group, hydrogenating a compound of general formula III:



III

wherein R¹, R², R⁶, R⁷, R⁸, R⁹, R¹⁰, R¹¹, Y and n are as defined for general formula I; and

(c) ~~optionally converting a compound of general formula I so formed into another compound of general formula I.~~

Claim 17 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in general formula I, when Y represents an oxygen atom and each of R¹⁰ and R¹¹ represents a hydrogen atom, a compound of general formula II is reacted with sodium cyanate.

Claim 18 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in general formula I, when Y represents an oxygen atom, R¹⁰ represents a hydrogen atom and R¹¹ represents a C₁₋₃ alkyl, C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl or phenyl group, a compound of general formula II is reacted with an isocyanate of the general formula R¹¹NCO.

Claim 19 (original): A process as claimed in claim 18, wherein the isocyanate is isopropylisocyanate or phenylisocyanate.

Claim 20 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in general formula I, when Y represents CHNO₂, R¹⁰ represents a hydrogen atom and R¹¹ represents a C₁₋₃ alkyl or C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl group, a compound of general formula II is reacted with an N-C₁₋₃ alkyl- or N-C₃₋₆ cycloalkyl-1-(methylthio)-2-nitroethenamine of the general formula CH₃SC(=CHNO₂)NR¹⁰R¹¹.

Claim 21 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 20, wherein the compound of general formula II is reacted with N-methyl-1-(methylthio)-2-nitroethenamine.

Claim 22 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in general formula I, when Y represents CHNO₂, a compound of general formula II is reacted first with 1,1-bis(methylthio)-2-nitroethylene and the resulting

compound is then reacted with an amine of the general formula $R^{10}R^{11}NH$, wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined for general formula I.

Claim 23 (original): A process as claimed in claim 22, wherein the amine is isopropylamine or dimethylamine.

Claim 24 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein when in general formula I, Y represents NH, a compound of general formula II is reacted with a compound of general formula $CH_3SC(=NH)NR^{10}R^{11}$ or a salt thereof, wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined for general formula I.

Claim 25 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein when in general formula I, Y represents NCN, a compound of general formula II is reacted with a compound of general formula $CH_3SC(=NCN)NR^{10}R^{11}$ or a salt thereof, wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined for general formula I.

Claims 26-50 (cancelled).

Claim 51 (previously presented): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein independently or in any compatible combination:

each of R^1 and R^2 independently represent a C_{1-6} alkyl;

each of R^3 and R^4 represents a hydrogen atom;

R^5 represents a hydrogen atom;

R^6 represents a hydrogen atom;

each of R^7 and R^8 independently represent a C_{1-6} alkyl;

R^9 represents a halogen atom or a methyl or acetyl group;

Y represents an oxygen atom or a group $CHNO_2$; and

n is 2.

Claim 52 (previously presented): A process as claimed in claim 51, wherein each of R¹ and R² represents a C₁₋₄ alkyl group; and each of R⁷ and R⁸ represents a methyl, ethyl or isopropyl group.

Claim 53 (currently amended): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein the compound of general formula I is selected from the group consisting of:

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-(N-carbamoyl-2-aminoethyl)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2H-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-[N-(N'-isopropylcarbamoyl)-2-aminoethyl]-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2H-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-[N-[1-(N'-methyl-2-nitroethenamine)-2-aminoethyl]-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2H-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-[N-[1-(N'-isopropyl-2-nitroethenamine)-2-aminoethyl]-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2H-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-[N-[1-(N', N'-dimethyl-2-nitroethenamine)-2-aminoethyl]-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2H-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3-[N-(N'-phenylcarbamoyl)-2-aminoethyl]-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2H-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-2-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-3-[2-guanidinoethyl]-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2H-pyrimido[6,1-a]isoquinolin-4-one;

9,10-Dimethoxy-3-[N-(N'-nitro)-2-guanidinoethyl]-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one;

3-[N-(N'-Cyclohexylcarbamoyl)-2-aminoethyl]-9,10-dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one;

3-(*N*-Carbamoyl-2-aminoethyl)-9,10-dimethoxy-2-(2-methylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one;

3-(*N*-Carbamoyl-2-aminoethyl)-2-(2,6-diisopropylphenylimino)-9,10-dimethoxy-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one;

3-(*N*-Carbamoyl-4-aminobutyl)-9,10-dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one; and

3-[N-(N'-Cyano-*N*"-methyl)-2-guanidinoethyl]-9,10-dimethoxy-2-(2,4,6-trimethylphenylimino)-3,4,6,7-tetrahydro-2*H*-pyrimido[6,1-*a*]isoquinolin-4-one.

Claim 54 (new): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein the cyanate salt in (a) is sodium cyanate.

Claim 55 (new): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in formula I, when Y represents NNO_2 , R^{10} and R^{11} each represents a hydrogen atom, and a compound of formula II is reacted with 2-methyl-1-nitro-2-isothiourea.

Claim 56 (new): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in formula I, Y represents CHNO_2 , a compound of formula II is reacted with 1,1-bis(methylthio)-2-nitroethylene and the resulting compound is then reacted with an amine of the formula $\text{R}^{10}\text{R}^{11}\text{NH}$, wherein R^{10} and R^{11} are as defined for formula I.

Claim 57 (new): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in formula I, when Y represents NH, R¹⁰ and R¹¹ each represents a hydrogen atom, a compound of formula II is reacted with N,N'-1,3-di-(tert-butoxycarbonyl)thiourea and the resulting compound is then treated with trifluoroacetic acid.

Claim 58 (new): A process as claimed in claim 16, wherein in formula I, when Y represents NCN, a compound of formula II is reacted with dimethyl-N-cyanodithioiminocarbonate and the resulting compound is then reacted with an amine of the formula R¹⁰R¹¹NH wherein R¹⁰ and R¹¹ are as defined for formula I.